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IMPORTANT NOTICE
TELECOPY/FACSIMILE COVER LETTER

TO: U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Examiner: Sung H. Pak
Art Unit: 2874

DATE: January 12, 2004

FROM: Lawrence J. McClure

TIME: _____

TOTAL NO. OF PAGES, INCLUDING COVER: 3

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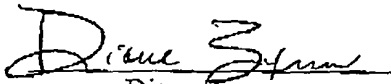
RE: U.S. Patent Application Serial No.:09/605,227; Our Ref. 81870.0009

I hereby certify that the following documents:

- Request for Continued Examination (RCE)
- Petition for Extension of Time (2 months)

are being facsimile transmitted to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, for filing in the above application.

January 12, 2004


Diane Zynn

TELECOPY/FAX NUMBER: 703-872-9319

CLIENT NUMBER: 81870.0009

ATTORNEY BILLING NUMBER: 1966

CONFIRMATION NUMBER: (703) 308-4880 (please return fax to Diane Zynn)

PTO/SB/30 (10-01)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031

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**REQUEST
FOR
CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)
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Address to:
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P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Application Number	09/605,227
Filing Date	June 28, 2000
First Named Inventor	Yutaka KUBA
Art Unit	2874
Examiner Name	Sung H. PAK
Attorney Docket Number	81870.0009

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114 of the above-identified application. Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8, 1995, or to any design application. See Instruction Sheet for RCEs (not to be submitted to the USPTO) on page 2.

1. Submission required under 37 CFR 1.114

- a. ☒ Previously submitted
- i. ☒ Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 CFR 1.116 previously filed on November 10, 2003.
(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).
- ii. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____
- iii. ☐ Other _____
- b. ☐ Enclosed
- i. ☐ Amendment/Reply
- ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
- iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
- iv. ☐ Other _____

2. Miscellaneous

- a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 CFR 1.103(c) for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 CFR 1.17(i) required)
- b. ☐ Other _____

3. Fees

- The RCE fee under 37 CFR 1.17(e) is required by 37 CFR 1.114 when the RCE is filed.
- a. ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 50-1314
- i. ☒ RCE fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(e) \$770
- ii. ☒ Extension of time fee (37 CFR 1.136 and 1.17) \$420
- iii. ☐ Other _____
- b. ☐ Check in the amount of \$ _____ enclosed
- c. ☐ Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

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SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Name (Print Type)	Lawrence J. McCure	Registration No. (Attorney Agent)	44,228
Signature	<i>Lawrence J. McCure</i>	Date	January 12, 2004

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner For Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below.

Name (Print Type)	Diane Zym	Date	January 12, 2004
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